

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
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August 13, 2020

Kim Reynolds
Governor of Iowa
Office of the Governor
Iowa State Capitol
1007 East Grand Avenue
Des Moines, IA 50319

Dear Governor Reynolds,

I am writing to express my serious concerns regarding the widespread damage caused by the recent derecho storm in Iowa, and to offer my support and assistance to the State's ongoing response and recovery efforts. I also wish to convey that I would strongly support a request for federal assistance from your office and stand ready to work with you to ensure that Iowans receive the support they need to recover from this unprecedented storm.

While affected communities across the state are continuing to assess the full extent of the damage, initial reports show just how much devastation this storm brought to our communities, schools, farms, and energy infrastructure. Hundreds of thousands of Iowans are still without electricity, and many continue to experience internet and telephone outages. School buildings have sustained serious damage and large quantities of debris pose a significant barrier to response and recovery efforts.

Additionally, our farmers are grappling with the two-fold destruction of their crops in the field as well as damage to the grain bins storing last year's harvest. This is particularly devastating considering our farmers in eastern Iowa were expecting a record harvest this year, and now must contend with potentially millions of acres of crop loss.

As the State works to respond to the effects of the storm and help Iowans recover as quickly as possible, my office stands ready to provide whatever assistance is necessary to ensure that Iowa has access to every resource available to tackle the challenges ahead. As always, we are prepared to advance any request from your office for federal assistance, and urge your office to work diligently to move forward on these considerations as efficiently as possible.

Thank you and I look forward to working with you towards a swift and full recovery.

Sincerely,



Dave Loebsack
Iowa's Second District